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Renditions

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- All governments have a responsibility to protect their citizens from harm. The United States works cooperatively with countries around the world to achieve this objective.
- In carrying out that responsibility, the United States sometimes captures, detains and questions enemy combatants engaged in terrorism, to gather potentially significant, life-saving intelligence. This is lawful under the law of war.
  - Renditions are conducted within U.S. law and treaty obligations, and the United States does not send persons to countries where it is more likely than not that the person will be tortured.
  - Our law enforcement and intelligence cooperation has helped foil a number of deadly plots against cities and citizens in Europe and elsewhere.
- Rendition is the movement of an individual from one country to another without that person's consent and outside of an extradition process. Renditions may be carried out lawfully for many reasons, including to remove persons who attempt unlawfully to enter the U.S., to help other governments bring fugitive criminals to judicial process, to keep dangerous terrorists off the streets, or for intelligence purposes.
- Other governments also conduct renditions.
  - Ramzi Youssef, who masterminded the World Trade Center bombing of 1993, was delivered to the U.S. by rendition once he was tracked down. He is now serving a life sentence.
- U.S. policy is not to transfer a person to a country if we believe that it is more likely than not the person will be tortured.

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- **The United States does not transport detainees from one country to another for the purpose of interrogation by torture.**
- **The U.S. has not used the airspace or airports of any country for the purpose of transporting a detainee to a country where he will be tortured.**
- **Where appropriate, in carrying out these renditions, the United States gets diplomatic assurances that transferred persons will not be tortured before transferring the detainees.**
- **In conducting renditions, this administration has respected and will continue to respect the sovereignty of other countries.**
- **We will not confirm or deny specific intelligence activities.**

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